

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim [20] 65, further comprising a differentially degradable coating encapsulating the conjugate for time release delivery of the conjugate.

22. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 21, wherein said coating is an enteric coating.

23-41. (Canceled)

42. (Currently Amended) A conjugate comprising 1α -(OH)-24-aminoalkyl-1,1-bisphosphonate- D_2 , 1-aminoalkyl-1,1-bisphosphonate-24-(OH)- D_2 , 1α ,24-(OH) $_2$ -3-aminoalkyl-1,1-bisphosphonate- D_2 , 1α -aminoalkyl-1,1-bisphosphonate-25-(OH)- D_3 , 1α ,25-(OH) $_2$ -3-aminoalkyl-1,1-bisphosphonate- D_3 , 1α -(OH)-25-aminoalkyl-1,1-bisphosphonate- D_3 , or a combination ~~combinations~~ thereof, wherein the conjugate has an affinity for a tissue of interest.

43-50. (Canceled)

51. (Currently Amended) The conjugate of claim [50] 42, wherein the tissue of interest comprises bone.

52-64. (Canceled)

65. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
a conjugate comprising 1α -(OH)-24-aminoalkyl-1,1-bisphosphonate- D_2 , 1-aminoalkyl-1,1-bisphosphonate-24-(OH)- D_2 , $1\alpha,24$ -(OH) $_2$ -3-aminoalkyl-1,1-bisphosphonate- D_2 , 1α -aminoalkyl-1,1-bisphosphonate-25-(OH)- D_3 , $1\alpha,25$ -(OH) $_2$ -3-aminoalkyl-1,1-bisphosphonate- D_3 , 1α -(OH)-25-aminoalkyl-1,1-bisphosphonate- D_3 , or a combination thereof, wherein the conjugate has an affinity for a tissue of interest; and
a suitable pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

66. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 65, further comprising an additional therapeutic agent.

67. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 66, wherein the therapeutic agent comprises at least one of conjugated estrogens or their equivalents, antiestrogens, calcitonin, bisphosphonates, calcium supplements, cobalamin, pertussis toxin, boron, dehydroepiandrosterone, transforming bone growth factor beta, activin, bone morphogenic protein and a combination thereof.